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CONSERVATORY  
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
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# KNOX COLLEGE BULLETIN

NEW SERIES 9

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In eighteen hundred eighty-three Knox College, realizing the important place that the study of music has in general education, established a musical department known as Knox Conservatory of Music. The high ideals of the College are strictly adhered to in the Conservatory, and the high standard of musicianship makes it a valuable school for the earnest student.

The Fall Semester opens September fifteenth, nineteen hundred fourteen.



MR. WILLIAM F. BENTLEY, MUS. D.  
*Director and Professor of Voice*

## FACULTY AND COURSES

WILLIAM F. BENTLEY, Mus. Doc., *Director*

BESSIE L. HINCKLEY, B. L., *Secretary and Treasurer*

### *Pianoforte*

BLANCHE M. BOULT

HELEN H. BIRCH

JAMES MAC C. WEDDELL

GAIL HAMILTON RIDGWAY

MARTHA G. CAMPBELL (Assistant)

### *Sight Reading Class (Pianoforte)*

BLANCHE M. BOULT

### *Pianoforte (Children's Dept.)*

MRS. NELLIE J. SMITH

EUGENIA LA BEE TRASK (Assistant)

### *Teachers' Training Class*

#### *Elementary Pianoforte*

MRS. NELLIE J. SMITH

### *General Normal Class*

WILLIAM F. BENTLEY

### *Classes in Musical Interpretation*

WILLIAM F. BENTLEY

### *Notation and Sight Singing*

#### *Classes*

WILLIAM F. BENTLEY

### *Public School Music Methods*

JESSIE GLAZE STRONG

### *Voice*

WILLIAM F. BENTLEY

JOSEPHINE M. MIZER

### *Pipe Organ*

JOHN WINTER THOMPSON

MARTHA G. CAMPBELL (Assistant)

### *Violin*

GAIL HAMILTON RIDGWAY

### *Harmony and Ear Training*

JOHN WINTER THOMPSON

MARTHA G. CAMPBELL

### *Musical Analysis*

JOHN WINTER THOMPSON

### *Counterpoint, Canon, and Fugue*

JOHN WINTER THOMPSON

### *Composition*

JOHN WINTER THOMPSON

### *History of Music*

GAIL HAMILTON RIDGWAY

## THE VOCAL DEPARTMENT

William F. Bentley came to Knox in 1885, and since that time has managed the affairs of the Conservatory. As a young man he was thoroughly equipped for the position of Director, having graduated from Oberlin Conservatory of Music in 1883, finishing in the three departments, Piano, Organ, and Violin; Principal of Musical Department of New Lyme (Ohio) Institute, 1883-1885; Student of Piano and Composition in Royal Conservatory of Music, Leipzig, Germany, 1887-1888; Student of Piano under Franz Kullak, Berlin, Germany, 1888-1889. From a child Mr. Bentley was always fond of singing, and through his choral conducting he became so interested in the voice that for a number of years, aside from his regular work as teacher of Piano and Director of the Conservatory, he studied carefully into the methods and use of the voice. The year 1897 and 1898 was spent in Paris, France, under the famous singing master, Delle Sedie, and in London coaching in Oratorio with Randegger. The summer of 1899 Mr. Bentley spent in Paris reviewing and perfecting the Delle Sedie methods. In 1906 he received the degree of Bachelor of Music from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and in 1910 the degree of Doctor of Music was conferred by Knox College upon Mr. Bentley at the close of his twenty-five years of service with the College.

Although Director of the Conservatory, Mr. Bentley's time is chiefly occupied in teaching, as the business of the office is in charge of Miss Hinckley, the Secretary and Treasurer. Since 1889 he has devoted himself to the teaching of the voice and conducting, finding time, however, to prepare his annual song recital before the students, and frequently appearing as soloist in various concerts in Galesburg and nearby cities.

As a Conductor, Mr. Bentley has had a large experience extending over a period of thirty years. During the quarter of a century in which he has had charge of the Chorus Choir of Central Congregational Church, it has grown from a small organization of a dozen members into a fine choral body numbering seventy-five or more singers. In connection with the choral clubs in Galesburg, Moline, Kewanee, Burlington, Iowa, and Keokuk, Iowa, Mr. Bentley has brought out many of the great Oratorios with such organizations as The Thomas Orchestra, The (Rosenbecker) Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Innes Band, and The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Bentley has been closely allied with the Illinois Music Teachers' Association, having served for two terms as its President, and also with the Music Teachers' National Association, having appeared a number of times upon their yearly programs.

In his teaching, Mr. Bentley develops a broad musicianship in connection with his excellent and natural methods of voice training.

Associated with Mr. Bentley in the Vocal Department is Miss Mizer, who came to Knox last year.



MISS JOSEPHINE M. MIZER  
*Professor of Voice*

Mr. Bentley and Miss Mizer will offer this instruction to classes of three pupils each, the lesson periods occurring twice a week, and continuing for one-half hour. The nominal fee of \$10.00 a Semester will be charged for each student.

Josephine M. Mizer graduated from Columbia School of Music, Chicago, under George Nelson Holt, 1911; Assistant teacher with Mr. Holt, 1911-1912. Professor in Knox Conservatory of Music, 1913—.

Miss Mizer has a splendid voice, and she is not only a successful singer, but her pupils give evidence of good methods of teaching and painstaking class room work.

## A NEW FEATURE

In order to accommodate College students and others engaged in business who have only a very limited time to spend with the training of their voices, class lessons have been provided. Both



"OLD MAIN"



MR. JOHN WINTER THOMPSON, MUS. D.  
*Professor of Organ and Theory*

## ORGAN AND THEORY DEPARTMENT

John Winter Thompson graduated from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, 1890; graduated from Royal Conservatory of Music, Leipzig, 1894; Professor in Knox Conservatory of Music, 1890—.

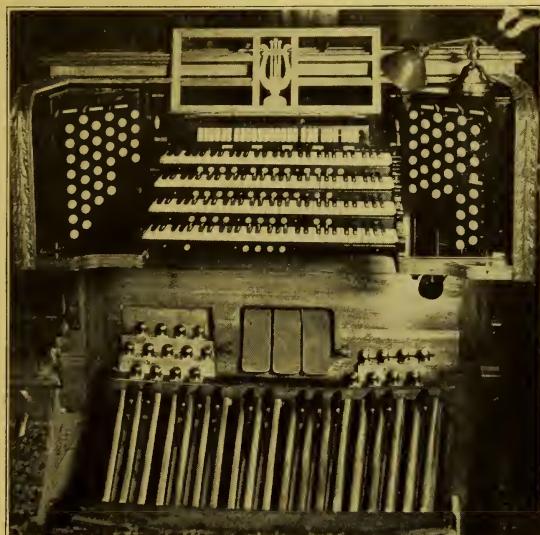
Mr. Thompson enters upon his twenty-fifth year of service in Knox Conservatory of Music with the opening of the school year, Sept. 15th. His splendid attainments as an organist and his record as a teacher have aided largely in making Knox Conservatory so widely known throughout the Middle West. Aside from his regular class-room work, Mr. Thompson fills many important engagements for recitals and concerts outside of his home city, but his real vocation is as teacher of organ and theory and organist of the Central Congregational Church, which post he has held coincidentally with his Conservatory position. As organist of Central Church Mr. Thompson is fortunate in having at his disposal such a remarkably fine instrument as the "Triumvirate Memorial Organ." The scheme and arrangement of this organ is after Mr. Thompson's own plan, and it was he who conceived the unique idea of such a tribute to Professors Hurd, Comstock, and Churchill.

Mr. Thompson received the degree of Bachelor of Music from his Alma Mater, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, in 1896, and in 1910, Knox College, in recognition of his high attainments, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Music.

Mr. Thompson has for many years been associated with the Illinois Music Teachers' Association, frequently playing at the annual meetings, and for three terms he has served the Association as its President. He is also a member of the Illinois Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Not only as an executive artist of high rank, but also as a creative artist, Mr. Thompson has much ability, and his published anthems and organ pieces show him to be a master of harmony and counterpoint.

Knox Conservatory is equipped with a large three manual pipe organ, a small two manual pipe organ, and two pedal organs for practice pur-



CONSOLE OF TRIUMVIRATE MEMORIAL ORGAN



MISS MARTHA GORDON CAMPBELL  
*Assistant Instructor in Organ,  
Theory, and Pianoforte*

purposes. Mr. Thompson and his assistant, Miss Campbell, are able to give not only a fine technical knowledge of the organ, but through the courses in theory, prepare the student for high grade musicianship either as church or concert organist.

Martha Gordon Campbell graduated from Knox Conservatory of Music in both Organ (under Mr. Thompson) and Piano (under Miss Birch).

In her one year of service in the school, Miss Campbell has won for herself an enviable reputation as a practical and conscientious teacher. As an organist, she has had experience substituting in the various city churches, especially in Central Church, where she frequently plays during the vacations.

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## THE PIANOFORTE DEPARTMENT

Blanche M. Boult is a graduate of our own institution, having taken her diploma with the class of 1892; Pupil of Busoni, Boston, 1893; Pupil of Krause, Leipzig, Germany, 1896-1898.

Aside from this preparation, Miss Boult has studied for several summers with different noted masters, the last two summers having been spent with Joseffy in Tarrytown, New York.

Miss Boult has been a member of the Knox Conservatory faculty for twenty years, and her work in every detail bears the closest scrutiny. Her own playing is refined and artistic, and this element is a noticeable feature in the playing of the many pupils who come under her excellent training.



MISS BLANCHE M. BOULT  
*Professor of Pianoforte*

Helen H. Birch is a graduate from the School of Music, De Pauw University, 1896; Post-graduate student under Miss Julia A. Druly, 1896-1897; Pupil of William H. Sherwood, three seasons at Chautauqua; Teacher in Louisiana Industrial Institute, Ruston, La., 1904-06. Student under Xaver Scharwenka, Berlin, Germany, 1906-07; Teacher of Pianoforte, Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia, 1907-08; Professor of Pianoforte, Knox Conservatory of Music, 1908—.

Miss Birch is a brilliant pianist and a forceful teacher, and her work in Knox for the past six years has won an enthusiastic response from all earnest pupils.



MISS HELEN H. BIRCH  
*Professor of Pianoforte*

James Mac Connell Weddell graduated from the Westminster College of Music, Pa., 1903; Pupil of Carl Bearman, Boston, 1903-1904; Principal of Musical Department, Synodical College, Fulton, Mo., 1905-07; Pupil of Carl Bearman, Boston, 1907-08, and summer seasons of 1910, '11, and '12; Instructor of Pianoforte, New Wilmington, Pa., 1908-09; Pupil of Ernest Hutchinson at Chautauqua, New York, the summers of 1913 and '14; Professor of Pianoforte, Knox Conservatory of Music, 1909—.



MR. JAMES MACCONNELL WEDDELL  
*Professor of Pianoforte*

Mr. Weddell is an indefatigable worker, both in the class-room, and in his own private practice, and his annual pianoforte recitals which he gives in spite of his heavy teaching, have become one of the interesting features of the year.

In his teaching, Mr. Weddell develops a clear, strong tone and clean technique, as is evidenced in the playing of his pupils.

Aside from his position in the Conservatory, Mr. Weddell is the organist at the First Methodist Church, which place he has held ever since coming to Knox.

## VIOLIN DEPARTMENT



MISS GAIL HAMILTON RIDGWAY, A. B., Mus. B.  
*Professor of Violin and History of Music*

Gail Hamilton Ridgway comes to Knox with an established reputation as a successful teacher and concert artist. She received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, Oberlin College, 1904, Bachelor of Music, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, 1907, and spent the year 1910 and 1911 as a pupil of Fritz Kreisler in Berlin and London.

### KREISLER WRITES:

"Miss Ridgway, who has studied with me for the past nine months, is an excellent player with a sound musical education. I consider her thoroughly equipped for high class teaching, and recommend her warmly to all violin students and musical schools."

### THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE PEN OF CHARLES WAKEFIELD CADMAN, THE EMINENT AMERICAN COMPOSER

"I can speak for the innate musicianship of Miss Gail Ridgway of Denver. I have appeared with Miss Ridgway several times and have found her work to be of the highest order. She is a thoroughly schooled player, and her interpretations are fully satisfying. As a teacher, Miss Ridgway is *par excellence*."

Miss Ridgway's experience as teacher consists of three years as Professor of Violin and Pianoforte in Cornell College, 1907-1910, two years as teacher and concert artist, Denver, Colorado, 1911-1913. The past year she has supplied in the absence of the regular Professor of Violin in the Grinnell School of Music, Grinnell, Iowa.

Miss Ridgway will teach a limited number of Piano students, and will have full charge of the Violin and History Departments.

## THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT



MRS. NELLIE J. SMITH  
*Instructor in Pianoforte*

Nellie J. Smith, in charge of the Children's Pianoforte Department, graduated from Knox Conservatory of Music in 1898; Post-graduate pupil in Knox Conservatory of Music, 1909; Carruther's School of Music, Chicago, Summer Sessions, 1910 and 1913; Mrs. Crosby Adams' Summer School, Chicago, 1912; Effa Ellis Music Course, 1912; Teacher in Knox Conservatory of Music, 1910—.

The Children's Department in the Conservatory is no new idea, as in the year 1901-1902 Musical Kindergarten was taught, and ever since that time a large number of little folk have obtained their start in the art of pianoforte playing from our school. Since Mrs. Smith's coming to Knox four years ago, the department has rapidly grown, not only in the number of pupils, but in the methods and scope of the work.

The system of instruction used by Mrs. Smith is an outgrowth of her large experience. As a foundation for the technical in piano playing, the "Carruther's Technics"

are used, although many original ideas have been added. The Effa Ellis Music Course forms a basis for the class work, yet here again Mrs. Smith does not cling closely to any set plan, but rather follows her own individual ideas adapted to the needs of the pupils.

### AIMS OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. To develop the child mind in concentration and memory.
2. To cultivate the habit of relaxation.
3. To train the ear to conscious hearing.
4. To teach the child correct and rapid sight reading.
5. To develop the child in the appreciation of musical feeling and expression.

### CLASS WORK

In connection with the private lessons, Wednesday and Saturday classes are conducted in which are considered the following subjects: Notation, Rhythm, Ear Training, Key-board Harmony, and Transposition, with the added feature of Story-telling (Mythological and Historical).

### MONTHLY RECITALS

A great attraction for the children lies in the fact that the monthly recitals are often held at the homes of the pupils, and in this way the combined musical and social feature makes the occasion doubly interesting.

### REPORTS SUBMITTED

An explicit report of each lesson is kept by the teachers in this department, so that the parents or guardians of the children may keep thoroughly informed as to the interest taken and the progress made.

## WHEN TO BEGIN

Not every child should begin the study of music as young as five years of age, yet there are those who should without doubt be given their start at this early period.

## HOW TO BEGIN

First of all, the interest of the child must be awakened. No set course will do this, for each child has his own good or bad musical tendencies, and his progress depends entirely upon the adaptability of the teacher.

It is far better not to remain under the narrow limits of the Children's Department longer than is necessary. The child's advancement demands in music, the same as in school, continued progression from one department to the next. The new teacher and new surroundings often give increased enthusiasm, and as more is required in the higher course, the situation is met by the pupil, and more is accomplished. As this change is expected in our school, the pupil passes from one teacher to another without that sentiment which often holds a pupil and teacher together far too long, thus blocking the way to the child's advancement.

Upon the recommendation of the teacher in charge of the Children's Department, certificates of promotion will be given to all students who attain the technical proficiency in scale playing of four notes to 120 m. m.

## ASSISTANT TEACHERS

On account of the large number of pupils in this department, it is impossible for Mrs. Smith to give her personal instruction to each one. She will, however, have entire charge of the department and will be loyally assisted by Miss Trask and Miss Campbell who are fully in sympathy with her methods of instruction.

As Miss Campbell's time is chiefly occupied as assistant in the Organ and Theory departments, Miss Trask is considered the regular assistant in the Children's department.

Eugenia La Bee Trask graduated from Knox Conservatory of Music (under Miss Boult's instruction) in June, 1914. During her senior year Miss Trask spent a large part of her time studying the Normal methods under Mrs. Smith, and as student assistant teacher, thus preparing herself for her chosen work. Her engagement at once as teacher in the Conservatory testifies to the confidence of the management in her fitness for the position.

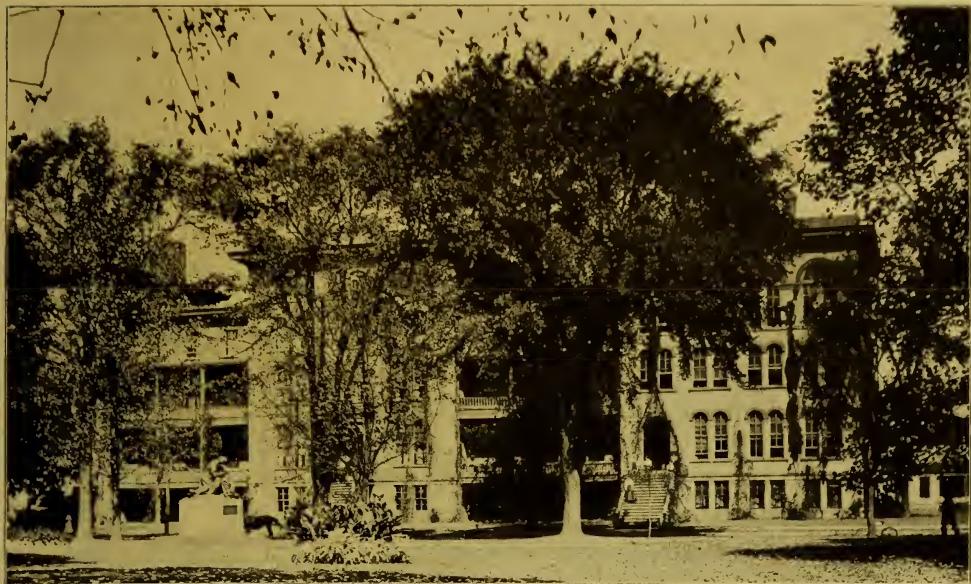
As Miss Trask's tuition does not appear in the regular catalog, the following paragraph is here appended to the "Table of Expense." (See catalog, page 26).

Length of Lesson	Number of Lessons per week	Tuition Each Semester
30 Minutes	One Two	\$10.00 \$20.00

All other tuition is given in the catalog of Knox Conservatory of Music which will be sent free on application.



MISS EUGENIA LA BEE TRASK  
Assistant Instructor in Piano-forte in Children's Dept.



## WHITING HALL

Whiting Hall is the attractive home for young women, accommodating one hundred and twenty-five students. The office and studios of the Conservatory are in the right wing.



MISS GRACE A. STAYT, PH. B.  
*Dean of Women and Head of Whiting Hall*

All correspondence with reference to Whiting Hall should be addressed to the Dean of Women.

## PUBLIC SCHOOL MUSIC

Jessie Glaze Strong graduated from the American School of Normal Methods (held at the Northwestern University) 1905; Student of Voice at the New England Conservatory, and in Harmony at the Harvard Summer School, Boston, Mass., 1910. Private instruction in Voice, under Mrs. Ada Sheffield and Dr. George F. Root of Chicago, and in Knox Conservatory of Music under Prof. Bentley for several years.



MISS JESSIE GLAZE STRONG  
*Instructor of Public School  
Music Methods*

The work in this department will be carried on in a most practical way, as the student will not only have the class instruction, but will often be allowed to visit the various schools of the city and observe Miss Strong in her daily teaching. The instruction will not be confined to any one method, but rather the broader idea which Miss Strong has evolved from her ten years' experience as supervisor of Public School Music in Galesburg.



A GRADUATING RECITAL, SHOWING THE STAGE OF BEECHER CHAPEL WHERE ALL CONSERVATORY RECITALS ARE HELD

*Our Graduates* number two hundred three, of which over one-half are now actively engaged in teaching, many holding important places as heads of departments, or as teachers in schools and colleges.

*Ensemble Playing*, especially for Violin students, is an absolute necessity, and the violin choir in which all violin students take part (as soon as sufficiently advanced) is a prominent feature in this department.

*The Knox Conservatory Orchestra* is an organization averaging about thirty pieces, and playing the best of the easier overtures and symphonies, also accompanying the Galesburg Musical Union in many of its oratorio concerts.

*The Galesburg Musical Union* is a choral society composed of a hundred or more singers under the directorship of Mr. Bentley. This is a city organization, but is open to students in the College and the Conservatory.

*Glee Clubs.* The Men's Glee Club of the College and the Ladies' Glee Club of the Conservatory are two organizations which take an active part in the life of the institution.

*The Artists' Course* is an established part of the curriculum of the Conservatory, and students, unless especially excused, are expected to attend. Some of the artists for next season are The Zoellner String Quartet (a re-engagement), Christine Miller, the famous contralto (first appearance), and Edward Baxter Perry, the eminent pianist (tenth appearance).

*Faculty Recitals* will occur occasionally, giving the student the opportunity of seeing and hearing his own instructors as concert artists.

*Graduating Recitals*, given by the members of the Senior class, occur some time during the year. Last year these numbered fourteen, of which nine were piano, two organ, and three voice. A book of programs will be mailed upon request.

*Students' Recitals* are held every Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock, and since 1885 there have been given six hundred and thirty-eight of these interesting programs. Public appearance for the student is as much of a necessity as the lesson period or the practice hour, and in preparation for these Thursday recitals *Class Recitals* are held once a week in the privacy of the studios, and there the necessary confidence and control are more readily acquired.

For further information address

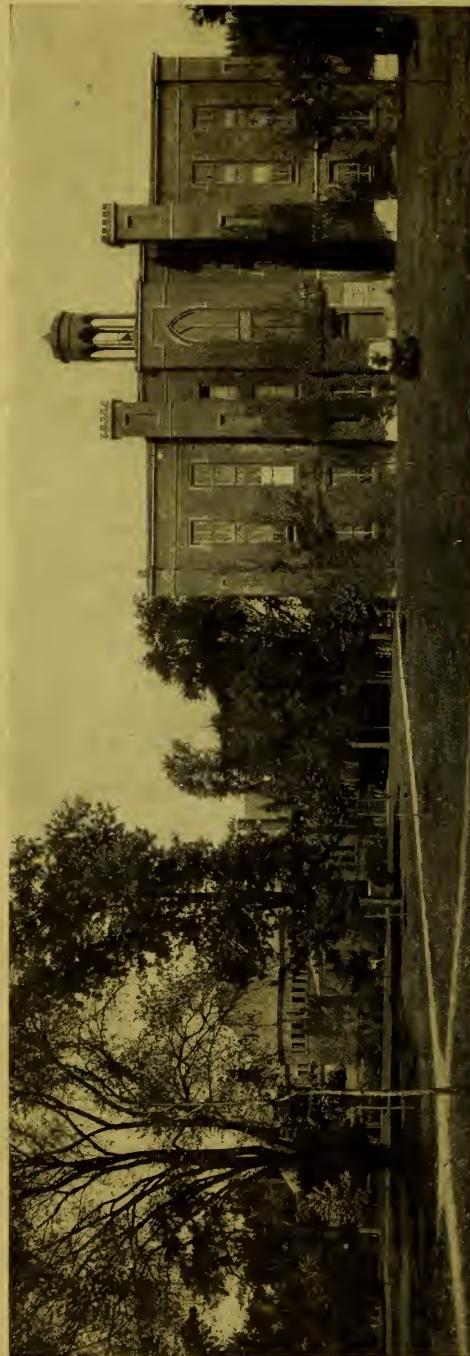
WILLIAM F. BENTLEY, *Director*

Knox Conservatory of Music

GALESBURG, ILLINOIS



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"OLD MAIN"

ALUMNI HALL

The Fall Semester of Knox College opens September fifteenth, nineteen fourteen.  
For College Catalog, address THE PRESIDENT, Knox College,

GALESBURG, ILLINOIS